

The Fun Learning Times

Riddles Galore!

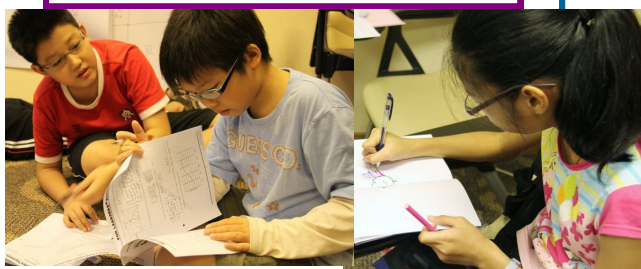
The P6s read a poem "A Martian Sends a Postcard Home" in their English class and were inspired to create their own riddles on how a Martian may view everyday objects. We reproduce some of them below.

1. It's disgusted by mostly everyone
But yet it's always found,
At home at different times,
morning, noon and night.
Even Justin Bieber uses it,
Not to mention yourself
The things inside are treasured
by those that are a lot smaller than
us
It's found in the White House
And even in the toilets.
Brendan Ang & William Zhu

2. The mouth opens wide
Waiting for us to give them food
They may have bad breath
But they help to save the earth
Gan Ke Ching & Chloe Chan

3. A one-eyed monster
Will wake up and blink its eye
When you poke its head.
However, when it has no energy
It will remain sleeping
Strangely, its visibility can be adjusted
When it is blinking at you
You cannot blink back.
What is it?
Koh Yin Teng

4. She can be a friend
Helping you to mend
She also has a big eye
And can hurt you till you cry
Li Hui Hui and Zhang Yi Tong



More on page 2.

**FUN LEARNERS'
SCHOOL**

Issue 21

Jan — Mar 2011

What People Say about Us:

"I like Ms Cha's lessons as we learn through fun activities like Speech and Drama."

Aisha Thauheed, P4

Dear Mr Chee,
Under your kind guidance, Mae has benefited a lot. May I wish you and all teachers in Fun Learners' School all the best.

Mrs Fong, parent of Marcus & Maelynn

Tech-Comfy or Tech-Savvy?

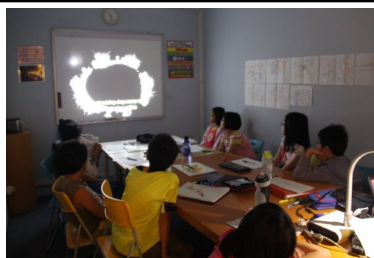
Mr Chee and Ms Cha recently attended a module on e-learning as part of their Masters course and shares what they have learnt about cyber-literacy in this article.

We often hear parents commenting about their children's computer literacy: "My child can use the computer better than I do. They use it all the time, for emailing, Facebooking, tweeting or gaming. I don't even know what is tweeting." "Oh, my kid can type, do Powerpoint presentations, and even has his own blog. Children are so advanced these days compared to us."

Yes, our children use computer more than we do. They grow up, eat and breathe with IT. What parents do not know is that while the children are comfortable with IT, they may not know how to use IT the right way. They are just being **tech-comfy**.

What they need to know is how to be **tech-savvy**. For example, how can they use internet to search for useful information? How reliable are those information (especially Wikipedia)? Can they copy and paste them without infringing copyright? What kind of websites should they avoid? Are they aware of the dangers of the internet? If there are cyber-bullying or cyber-predating cases, what should they do to defend themselves?

The answers for the above questions are important knowledge we have to



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FUN Editorial Team:

Tan Chew Ling
Chee Chin Young
Cha Pei Pei

Riddles Galore!

5. It nourishes our body
And replenishes our energy
It creases like paper
And there's no end to where it
goes.

Koh Tze Yee & Tay Kai Jie

6. As two hands encloses the earth
Nobody can stop its birth
As it forms your schedule
There's no end from where it
stands.

Tay Kai Jie & Koh Tze Yee

7. A fussy eater
You need to feed it the correct food
and he will just gobble it up
He comes in 3 different colours
With all different uses.

Celine Poh & Melanie Hui

8. You press my shoulder
and I spit.

Lim You Xuan

9. A box that everybody eyes
It can make us jump for joy
Or make us shriek in agony
It can be noisy
but can be quietened
with a gently touch of your finger.

Gregory See Toh & Ong Ming Jie

10. It is a place with a sea where
no ships sail on
A place where nighttime can
come anytime
Happily takes in whatever you
give.

Peh Xuan Ying & Ng Yong Sheng

11. A deadly thing that traps peo-
ple in it
In a blink of an eye,
The person is captured
And the person will freeze in time
forever and ever...

Ng Yong Sheng & Peh Xuan Ying

12. It makes things disappear
But leaves droppings behind.

Jeremiah Trinidad & Mok Jia Luo

Answers can be found on the back page.



Creative Writing: An Unexpected Heroine



By Melanie Hui, P6

"Oh Dad! This place is awesome! I love the food here! I gushed.

"Yes...Indeed, we should..." My father's sentence was rudely interrupted by loud shouts.

My whole family looked around curiously. A few tables away, two men were having an argument. One was tall, skinny and well-dressed while the other was short and plump with unkempt hair. Apparently, they were arguing over a table.

"Give me back the seat! I came here first. Get lost! You fatty!" the skinny man hollered.

"What did you call me? You bamboo pole! I sat here first!" The "fatty" bellowed. The enraged thin man started hurling expletives at the plump man. The plump man was incensed. Without warning, he picked up a chair and held it over the other man's head. Audible gasps could be heard. A shiver ran down my spine as a thousand "what if's" ran through my mind. "What if he kills? What if I get hurt?"

Not wanting any misfortune to happen, I put up a brave front and walked towards the two men. My heart was in my mouth as I said meekly, "Excuse me?"

"What!" boomed the unanimous reply by both men. I recoiled momentarily but I gathered up my courage and said in a quivering voice, "Why don't you sit together and share the table instead of fighting over it? There are two seats, aren't there?"

There was an unbearable silence as all eyes were directed on me by now. "What have I done?" I thought to myself. Fearing that the two men would come after me, I retreated to my seat without a word. As I settled down into my seat, I expected to be chided by my parents for being a 'busybody'. To my surprise, my parents patted me on my back and said I had done the right thing. "Look," my father said, pointing to the two men.

Turning back, to my amazement and relief, the two men were sharing the table. However, their heads were down as they gobbled down their food in double-quick time. My unease melted away to relief. I had done the right thing.

Tech-Comfy or Tech-Savvy?

impart to our children. Without guidance, they may not know how to search purposefully online for information to do their school projects. Instead, they may use wrong information from websites; they might be criticised and bullied in MSN or Facebook (which has a profound impact on the abused child mentally and psychologically in a long term. By the way, one should not have a Facebook account if one is below 13 years old). The worst scenario is when they are curious and arrange a meet-up with strangers. To avoid such issues, we need to equip our children with essential digital literacy skills.

There are a number of useful tools online for educational purposes and it is important to teach children how to use them. Wikipedia is one of them. According to a recent research, Wikipedia can be a good starting point for research and reference. Though it has 4 errors per page on average, it is not too bad if we compare it to Britannica which has 3 errors per page on average. After getting the information, the children should be taught that more research should follow.

Another essential skill that we must teach our children is what they

should do if they are bullied online. A recent research showed that compared to cyber-predating cases, cyber-bullying is a more pressing issue faced by average children and teenagers. The research showed that up to 70% of children in the US had been bullied in cyberspace by their peers previously. Regrettably, they could become one of the bullies in another case too. To protect our children, we should let them know the consequences of being a bully in the cyberspace (they face possible charges in court). We should also teach them what to do if such cases arise. If they are bullied verbally in facebook or MSN, press the 'print screen' button on the keyboard to retain the evidence, and then approach parents and teachers for help.

By teaching them some of the essential skills in digital literacy, the side effect is that our children will look at us with new lenses and will think: My parents are cool.

The top ten useful online educational tools are:

1. Mind42.com – for collaborative

mind-mapping

2. Findhow.com - Find how to do things. This site gives you access to trusted, reliable How-To content on the Internet.

3. schoolwaxtv.com - Educator approved videos so everyone can learn in a safe and comfortable environment.

4. wiki.answers.com- With over 5,000 categories, there are Q&As for everyone. Browse and discover new categories.

5. johnlocker.com - Online documentaries listed under categories. Great classroom resource.

6. Delicious.com – social bookmarking tool

7. Symbaloo.com - Access your bookmarks anywhere

8. Wordle – word cloud generator

9. E-language.wikispaces.com - lots of tools here, useful for parents, teachers and children.

10. Twitter.com - the best way to share and discover what is happening right now.

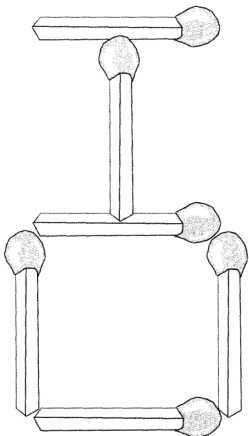
Source: www.e-language.wikispaces.com

Brain Teasers

Here are some puzzles that you can amuse and frustrate your friends and family during gatherings. All you need are matchsticks or toothpicks!

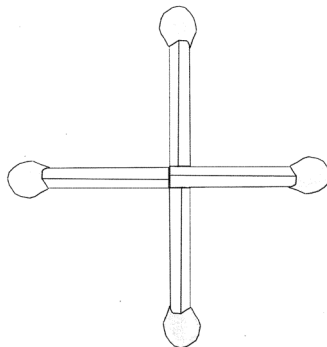
Puzzle 1

Move two matchsticks to create a shape with five squares in it



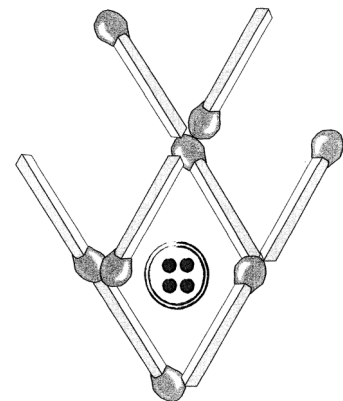
Puzzle 2

Look very carefully at this diagram. Now move one match to make it a square.



Puzzle 3

This rocket is heading towards you at a great speed! Quickly, move just three matches and the cockpit button, to send it rocketing skywards again!



Source: *Pocket Puzzles*

Answers can be found on the back page.

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FUN
LEARNERS 
SCHOOL
Awakening Joy in Learning

Our Teaching Philosophy

We strongly believe every student's potential can be maximised. At Fun Learners' School, our primary mission is to provide each and every student with the patience and attention they deserve. With holistic teaching methods and active spontaneity, we strive to breathe life into the textbooks by drawing relevance to the world we live in, thereby seeding and inspiring the love of learning in every young mind.



Meet Our Fun Learner, Xuan Ying



Peh Xuan Ying, P6, Lian Hua Pri, has been a Learner of Fun Learners' School since P1. He has a younger brother in P2.

What are your hobbies?

My hobbies are reading and playing computer games. I also enjoy badminton. Once a week, my family and I will play badminton at Bukit Batok Sports Hall.

What are your favourite books and where do they come from?

I have always been a fan of AdventureBox and Discovery-Box. I also like to read Mr Mystery. Recently, my brother has bought a number of BeastQuest books and I have been reading them too!

What motivates you to work hard?

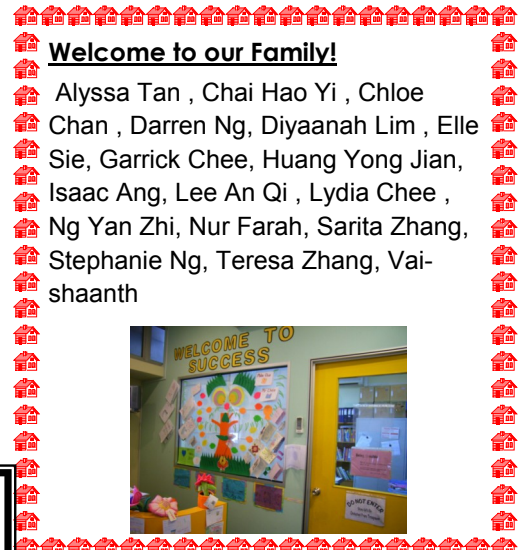
I want to live up to my parents' expectations, and more importantly, my own expectations. I also hope to go to a good secondary school and to do that, I know I need to get good results which will allow me to choose the school I want.

What do you like about Fun Learners' School?

The lessons are interesting and there are games to add to the fun. The teachers are also kind and believe in every student.

What will you do differently if you are a teacher of Fun Learners' School?

I will organize more activities like the PSLE Camp!



Welcome to our Family!

Alyssa Tan, Chai Hao Yi, Chloe Chan, Darren Ng, Diyaanah Lim, Elle Sie, Garrick Chee, Huang Yong Jian, Isaac Ang, Lee An Qi, Lydia Chee, Ng Yan Zhi, Nur Farah, Sarita Zhang, Stephanie Ng, Teresa Zhang, Vaisaanth



What's On

Lessons

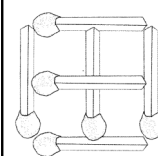
Term 2: 22 Mar—26 Jun
Term 3: 28 Jun—4 Sep

Centre Closure

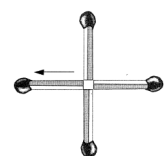
22 Apr: Good Friday
1 May: Labour Day
17 May: Vesak Day
30 May to 12 Jun: June hol closure
13 Jun: 150 * treat
9 Aug: National Day
30 Aug: Hari Raya Puasa
3 Sep: Teachers' Day closure

For the whole year calendar, refer to 2011 calendar found in www.funlearning.com.sg.

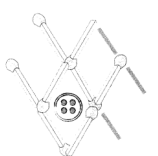
Answers to riddles and brain teasers



Puzzle 3:



Puzzle 2:



Puzzle 1:
Brain Teasers

1. dustbin
2. dustbin
3. camera
4. needle
5. water
6. clock
7. recycling bin
8. stapler
9. TV
10. toilet bowl
11. camera
12. eraser

Riddles

We gladly welcome dialogue with our students and parents. Please direct your mails to contact@funlearning.com.sg. We look forward to hearing from you!